

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /085 W

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R 111730Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5646

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 2778

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MO SS SP UN

SUBJ: SPANISH SAHARA: UNSYG WALDHEIM VISITS RABAT

1. UN SYG WALDHEIM DEPARTED RABAT JUNE 11 FOR MADRID FOLLOWING TALKS WITH KING HASSAN AND FON MIN LARAKI ON SPANISH SAHARA PROBLEM. WALDHEIM ARRIVED HERE JUNE 10 FOLLOWING BRIEF VISITS TO ALGIERS AND NOUAKCHOTT. IN HIS PRESS STATEMENTS, SECYGEN WAS QUITE UNCOMMUNICATIVE. HE STRESSED THAT HE INTENDED UNDERTAKING NO DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON SAHARA AND THAT HE BELIEVED NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE UNTIL UN FACT-FINDING MISSION HAD ISSUED ITS REPORT. WHEN ASKED WHETHER, HAVING SEEN LIBERATION MOVEMENT (I.E. F POLISARIO) REPS IN ALGIERS, HE INTENDED TO INTERVIEW LEADERS OF OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, HE SAID MERELY THAT ALL GROUPS SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND THAT HIS MEETING WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN ALGIERS HAD BEEN CONFINED TO BRIEF ENCOUNTER AT AIRPORT.

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2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM VARIOUS SOURCES THAT KING ENDEAVORED TO PUT SECYGEN'S VISIT INTO A MAGHREB CONTEXT. ALGERIAN, LIBYAN, TUNISIAN, AND POSSIBLY MAURITANIAN AMBASSADORS WERE INVITED TO MEET WITH KING ON AFTERNOON OF JUNE 11 AND TO STAY ON FOR DINNER WHICH KING GAVE IN WALDHEIM'S HONOR.

3. COMMENT: APPARENT LIBYAN AND TUNISIAN INVOLVEMENT IN WALDHEIM'S VISIT WOULD SEEM TO REPRESENT MOROCCAN EFFORT TO COUNTER-BALANCE ALGERIAN ATTITUDES WITH THOSE OF COUNTRIES SEEMINGLY MORE FRIENDLY TO MOROCCAN POSITION. MOROCCANS CONTINUE TO ASSERT PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT QADHAFI HAS RECENTLY BEEN CONVERTED TO MOROCCAN CAUSE AND THAT TUNISIANS HAVE BEEN ON BOARD FOR SOME TIME. OUR FEELING IS THAT DEGREE OF LIBYAN AND TUNISIAN SUPPORT FOR MOROCCANS IS PROBABLY LESS THAN TOTAL. HOWEVER, POSITIONS OF THESE COUNTRIES MAY BE SUFFICIENTLY DIFFERENT FROM ALGERIAN ATTITUDE TO BE USEFUL TO MOROCCAN DIPLOMACY.

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